account of having qualified manpower. Certain critical areas that have been defined under the service sector are Health Services, Tourism and Entertainment Industry.

Free Trade in BIMST-EC

4508. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made with regard to the proposed free trade in BIMST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand-Economic Co-operation); and

(b) the outcome of the 4th meeting of the BIMST-EC Ministerial meeting held in the first week of March, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI) : (a) At the Third BIMST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand- Economic Co-operation) Trade/Economic Ministers' Meeting held on 15th February, 2001 in Yangon. Myanmar, the Ministers stressed the importance of a time-bound work programme for establishing Free Trade Area and agreed to set up a Group of Experts (GoE) to study in greater detail the pros and cons of the two approaches namely, the positive list approach and the negative list approach towards a Free Trade arrangement in BIMST-EC. The first meeting of the GoE was held on 17-18 January, 2002 and the second meeting on 24-25 June, 2002 in New Delhi. In the second meeting of the GoE, all the member countries agreed that the negative list approach is preferable while moving towards a free trade area in the BIMST-EC region.

(b) During the Fourth BIMST-EC Trade/Economic Ministers meeting held in Colombo on 7th March, 2003, it has been decided that a Group of Experts chaired by Sri Lanka be set up to draft a Framework Agreement for a Free Trade Area in the BIMST-EC region bearing in mind that the first BIMST-EC Summit is to be held in Thailand in 2004.

Export of Homoeopathy, Ayurvedic and Unani Medicines

4509. PROF. MM AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the value of Homoeopathy, Ayurvedic, Unani etc. medicines exported during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details of the value of such medicines proposed to be exported during the Tenth Five Year Plan?